



Adaptation to flood risks in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

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Abstract:

Purpose - This paper aims to present part of the research results in developing an adaptation process to cope with flood risk in coastal cities under the impact of climate change variability and rapid urbanization in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. **Design/methodology/approach** - Two main assessment tools applied in this research are rapid vulnerability assessment and tool for environmental assessment and management. **Findings** - Under the same natural conditions, people living in more urbanized districts suffer with more inundation and risks from polluted floodwater than those who live in less urbanized districts. Notwithstanding, people in lower urbanized districts are more vulnerable since they have a low capacity to cope with flood and pollution due to flood-prone living conditions, poverty and lack of awareness on the changing variability and water pollution. **Gender analysis** in this research has found that men and women play different roles in coping with hazards, and women suffer with more risks than men especially in term of health, sexual harassment, and increasing responsibility. **Practical implications** - The adaptation process should focus on integrating vulnerability assessment findings appropriately with the assessment tools and gender analysis in order to develop as well as implement adaptation measures effectively and efficiently. This adaptation process should also be applied for other countries having different contexts of development under different levels of projected climate change-related risks. **Originality/value** - This research contributes in developing the process on adaptation to possible hazards related to climate change, especially for coastal communities of Vietnam and developing countries where the urbanization process is increasing rapidly.

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Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker

Early Warning System:

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resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal, Urban

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: Other Asian Country

Other Asian Country: Vietnam

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

Intervention:

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

Other Vulnerable Population: People in flood-prone living conditions; People with a lack of awareness of the changing variability and water pollution; Women

Resource Type:

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content